

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 29, 2005. Claims 30, 36-42, 57, and 63-69 remain pending in this application. Claims 30, 36-39, 57, and 63-67, and 69 have been amended. Claims 1-5, 8-10, 16-29, 31-35, 43-56, 58-62, and 70-80 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 30, 36-39, 57, and 63-66 are in independent form.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 30, 36-42, 57, and 63-69 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Since Claims 30, 36-39, 57, and 63-66 have been so rewritten, they are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 9, 16, 28, 33, 43, 55, 60, and 70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2005/0151743 A1 to Sitrick; Claims 4, 10, 17, 44, 71, and 72, as being obvious from Sitrick in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,745,121 to Politis; Claims 18-24, 27, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 45-51, 54, 56, 58, 59, 61, 62, and 73-79 as being obvious from Sitrick in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,075,875 to Gu; Claims 26, 53, and 76, as being obvious from Sitrick and Gu and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,636,216 to Silverbrook et al.; and Claims 25, 52, and 80, as being obvious from Sitrick and Gu and further in view of Politis.

Cancellation of Claims 1-5, 8-10, 16-29, 31-35, 43-56, 58-62, and 70-80 renders the rejections of those claims moot. Applicant does not concede the propriety of the rejections; in fact, Applicant intends to file a divisional application to prosecute the canceled claims.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance for those reasons.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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